

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT East German Railroad Equipment

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1. An apparatus has been developed for measuring by electromagnetic means the wall thickness of locomotive fireboxes. It was conceived by the scientist Dr. Klug (fnu), who has since left the East Zone and is employed in the Physical-Technical Institute in Berlin-Charlottenburg. The technical development was done by Ekruth (fnu), of the German Office of Weights and Measures. The apparatus is manufactured by AT-Treptow. Eight have been bought by the National Railways.
2. There are three coal-dust burning locomotives in service in East Germany. It is now recognized that these locomotives do not pay; the fireboxes have to be removed after two long runs, because they are burnt out. This involves considerable expense, and the possibility of a boiler explosion, as a result of defective copper alloy. The National Railways accordingly refuse to use them any longer.
3. According to the opinion of experts, the steel sheathing on the rails of the Berlin underground is so worn that unless it is renewed, suspension of operation will have to be reckoned with in a short time. This came out at a meeting of the heads of a testing section of the National Railways who inspected the road.

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